

**BEAUFORT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BOARD MEETING– OPEN SESSION**

MINUTES – January 29, 2025

BY ZOOM: Jane Kokinakis, DO, Richardson LaBruce, Doug Folzenlogen, MD, Alex Dorobantu, Allison Coppage, Lynsey Rini, Courtney Smith

PRESENT: Bill Himmelsbach (chair), Vernita Dore, Tommy Harmon, Eric Billig, MD, Carolyn Banner, PhD., Alice Howard, Russell Baxley, Kurt Gambla, D.O., Karen Carroll, Shawna Doran, Chris Ketchie, Ken Miller, Dee Robinson, Brian Hoffman, Kim Yawn, and Victoria Tinsley

Absent: William Jessee, MD

Public/Open Session CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Himmelsbach called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. The meeting has been posted. Victoria Tinsley took roll call. A quorum of the Board is confirmed.

MOTION: A motion was made Mr. Harmon for Board Members to go into Executive Session for the following purpose: Discussion of Medical Staff recruitment and contracting, strategic matters related to facility expansion and contractual arrangements with related partners. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dore and unanimously approved.

Public/Open Session MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Billig to re-commence into Public/Open Session at 9:43 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harmon and unanimously approved.

Mr. Himmelsbach provided the mission statement.

Karen Carroll provided a patient story.

CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of Minutes for December 11, 2025 Approval of Committee Reports, Patient Flow and Staff Reports – Dr. Billig made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Banner to adopt the agenda and reports as presented. Unanimous approval/no opposition.

ACTION ITEMS

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2025-2026 BMH RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN AS PRESENTED BY THE QI COMMITTEE. Mrs. Dore made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. LaBruce. Unanimous approval.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE NOMINATION OF JANE KOKINAKIS, DO, AS VICE-CHAIR OF THE BEAUFORT MEMORIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE. Mr. LaBruce made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Harmon. Unanimous approval.

MEDICAL STAFF: Dr. Gambla reported no issues on the credentials report..

MEDICAL STAFF – *Credentials*: The following practitioners requested Appointment:

Gamble, Lindsay FNP, Requesting Appointment: APP; Department of Medicine; BMH Medical Oncology; Beaufort Memorial Oncology Specialists; Gannon (Hales), Suzanne, PAC, Requesting Appointment: APP; Department of Emergency Medicine; Emergency Medicine; BMH Emergency Medicine; Kosmowski, Andrew, MD, Requesting Appointment: Active/Locum; Department of Emergency Medicine; Emergency Medicine; BMH Emergency; Lee, Lawrence MD, Requesting Appointment: Active; Department of Anesthesia; Anesthesiology; Low Country Anesthesia; Mburu, Isabell, PA, Requesting Appointment: APP/Locums; Department of Medicine; Hospitalist; BMH Hospitalist; Monahan, Michael B., DO, Requesting Appointment: Active/Locums; Department of Surgery; Urology; Beaufort Memorial Urology Specialists; Prozesky, Jansie, MD, Requesting Appointment: Active; Department of Anesthesia; Anesthesiology; Low Country Anesthesia; Stone, James, MD, Requesting Appointment: Active/Locums; Department of Medicine; Hospitalist; BMH Hospitalist; Summers, Thomas, DO, Requesting Appointment: Active/Locums; Department of Medicine; Oncology; Beaufort Memorial Oncology Specialists; Zhang, Amy, MD, Requesting Appointment: Active/Locums; Department of Medicine; Hospitalist; BMH Hospitalist

Reappointment:

Adams, John, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Honorary; Department of Surgery; Urology; MUSC Health Urology at Rutledge Tower; Baisch, Susanne, NP, Requesting Reappointment: APP; Department of Medicine; Oncology; Beaufort Memorial Oncology Specialist; Bettel, Norman, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Active; Department of Medicine; Neurology; Coastal Neurology; Biggs, Austin, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Telemedicine; Department of Pediatrics; Tele-Pediatrics; MUSC Telemedicine Affiliation; Requesting Reappointment: Active; Department of Radiology; Radiology; Beaufort Medical Imaging; Blalock, Phillip, MD, Borissova, Irina, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Community Active; Department of Ambulatory Primary Care; Internal Medicine; Sea Island Medical Practice; Brown, Joshua, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Telemedicine; Department of Medicine; Tele-Stroke; MUSC Telemedicine Affiliation; Crowther, Cynthia, CRNA, Requesting Reappointment: APP; Department of Anesthesia; Anesthesiology; Low Country Anesthesia; Kaiser, Laura, PA-C, Requesting Reappointment: APP; Department of Surgery; Surgical Specialist; Beaufort Memorial Surgical Specialist; Katz, Allen, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Consulting; Department of Radiology; Virtual Radiology; vRad; Nnadi, Patricia, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Telemedicine; Department of Medicine; Tele-Psych; MUSC Telemedicine Affiliation; Pacheco, Luz, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Telemedicine; Department of Medicine; Tele-Psych; MUSC Telemedicine Affiliation; Poleynard, Blake, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Consulting; Department of Radiology; Virtual Radiology; vRad; Rehman, Saeed, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Active; Department of Emergency Medicine; Emergency Medicine; Beaufort Memorial Emergency Medicine; Rickenbaker, Patricia, LISW, Requesting Reappointment: APP; Department of Medicine; Licensed Social Worker; Sea Island Psychiatry; Siegel, Mark, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Community Active; Department of Surgery; Ophthalmology; Sea Island Ophthalmology; Smith, Brendan, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Community Active; Department of Surgery; Plastics; Smith Plastic Surgery; Snelgrove, Danuel, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Telemedicine; Department of Medicine; Tele-Stroke; MUSC Telemedicine Affiliation; Srivastava, Ravindra, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Community Active; Department of Medicine; Psychiatry; Sea Island Psychiatry;

Suh, Jimmy, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Telemedicine; Department of Medicine; Tele-Stroke; MUSC Telemedicine Affiliation; Williams, Alton, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Telemedicine; Department of Medicine; Tele-Psych; MUSC Telemedicine Affiliation; Yoder, Jason, MD, Requesting Reappointment: Active; Department of Anesthesia; Anesthesiology; Low Country Anesthesia

Requesting Modifications to Privileges

Resignations:

Kristen Tweety, Anesthesia, Reflex Resignation; Jacobs, Leigh, APRN, Department of Medicine, Reflex Resignation; Joel Huntley, Anesthesia, Reflex Resignation; Danielle Draper, Anesthesia, Reflex Resignation; Kevin Jones, Orthopedics, Resignation Letter; Edward Blocker, Orthopedics, Resignation Letter; Kristoffer Farrell, DNP, Emergency Department, Reflex Resignation; Julia Chen, MD, MUSC Vascular Surgery, Reflex Resignation

After review and the recommendation by MEC and then QIC, Mr. Harmon made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Billig to accept the Credentials Committee recommendations as presented. Unanimous approval.

MOTION THE BOARD EXERCISE ITS DISCRETIONARY POWERS AS OUTLINED IN THE BMH MEDICAL STAFF BYLAWS IN ORDER TO GRANT A WAIVER OF QUALIFICATION FOR BOARD CERTIFICATION TO DR. ZECCOLA. THE WAIVER STIPULATES THAT DR. ZECCOLA NEEDS TO TAKE AND SUCCESSFULLY PASS HIS FAMILY PRACTICE BOARDS AT THE NEXT OFFERED OPPORTUNITY WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BE APRIL 2025, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE BMH MEDICAL STAFF PAST THAT DATE. Dr. Banner made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Billig to accept the Credentials Committee recommendations as presented. Unanimous approval.

COMMITTEE CHAIR ISSUE IDENTIFICATION:

Finance Committee: Mr. Harmon noted a profit for the first quarter, compared to a first quarter loss previous year. Mr. Miller gave a brief overview of the financial quarter. Volumes were mixed, primarily ahead of prior year but below budget. Mr. Miller noted the finance committee continues to report for companies 1, 2 and 3 as well as on behalf of the obligated group for the Bond to include company 10, South of Broad Healthcare. Mr. Miller discussed debt covenants for the obligated group. Dr. Billig inquired about the physician visits compared to budget, which came in quite below budget for the quarter. Mr. Baxley and Mr. Miller both noted the onboarding of two new physician groups (ER and Hospitalist) that BMH will begin professional fee billing for only in January. The budget for the increase in volume was spread across the year, not just to start in Q2, therefore the expected dip in volumes compared to budget for Q1 on the physician visit metric.

Quality Improvement Committee: Dr. Billig reported 100% compliance in joint commission tracers. Leapfrog drug scan rates are above goal at 96%. Total joint volumes are slightly lower compared to prior year, but quality metrics are improving. Patient throughput report, ED length

of stay is a challenge. Quality scorecard is overall good. BMH won a STEMI platinum award as 1 of 8 hospitals awarded in SC.

Governance Committee: Mr. LaBruce noted the requirements of board members to participate in an hour of continuing education. Board evaluations will be upcoming. There is a vacancy on the board and will be interviewing to fill soon.

Compliance Committee: Nothing to report.

Legislative and Community Outreach Committee: Continue to work on schedules for legislators to attend the meetings. Dr. Banner made the board aware of Bill 46, a bill addressing non-competes for hospitals and the corporate practice of medicine, sponsored by Sen Tom Davis. This bill would prohibit non-competes and is currently under review. BMH is following the bill closely, along with the SCHA.

BMH FOUNDATION: Ms. Yawn reported on behalf of the foundation. The fundraising goal YTD is at \$1.9M, with a goal of \$3M. Drivers of this are two grants received, one for virtual nursing from the Duke Endowment for \$485k and a workforce grant. Ms. Yawn reminded the board the valentine ball is next weekend. The vision campaign is going well, with a matching gift met, raising about \$500k towards the vision campaign.

PATIENT CARE SERVICES: Ms. Carroll reported international recruitment of nurses, although slow at times, has been going well. With two nurses committing to full time employment with BMH following their contract expiration. Palmetto Gold is the top 100 nurses in SC, BMH nominated 6 nurses, and two nurses were selected, herself (Karen Carroll) and Tricia Evegán, nursing supervisor.

BEAUFORT PHYSICIAN PARTNERS: Mr. Ketchie reported a good first quarter, with a record by over 3,000 visits. There were multiple provider starts in Q1, with growth as a focus for the physician practices.

MANAGEMENT REPORT:

Workforce Development: Mr. Baxley shared the dual track program with the high schools has officially launched. The students will graduate with a certification and can hopefully continue their education with BMH and locally. Surgical technologists are also a topic amongst SC legislation right now. BMH is talking with TCL to work on being an adjunct site for surg tech education.

Construction Update: The Crisis Stabilization Unit will break ground in February. The start was pushed back slightly to accommodate for the high volumes in the ER due to respiratory season. OR renovation phase 2 has commenced, and phase 1A had its final DPH overhead inspection. The Angio suite will also kick off construction in February.

The growth and balanced scorecards are available for review in the board packet.

DISCUSSION OR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

Patient throughput report is reported through the QI committee and is available to the board for review. The report follows the flow of patients through the hospital.

Articles of interest were included in the board packet for review.

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Dr. Billig and was seconded by Ms. Dore, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vernita Dore, Secretary